GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:10
ANSWERED ON:19.11.2001
AGRICULTURAL SCIENTISTS SENT ABROAD
BALIRAM

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of Agricultural Scientists of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research have been sent abroad on the pretext of acquiring new technology under human resource development scheme during the last three years;

(b) if so, the total expenditure incurred under the above scheme during the last three years;

(c) the benefits accrued to the students engaged in educational activities under the scheme; and

(d) the details of the procedure/rule followed for selection of the agricultural scientists under the scheme?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH)

(a) to (d) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.10 FOR 19/11/2001 REGARDING AGRICULTURAL SCIENTISTS SENT ABROAD.

(a) No, Sir. Agricultural Scientists of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research have been sent abroad under the mandate of the Agricultural Human Resources Development project to acquire latest skills in teaching, research and extension.

(b) US $ 1,230,041

(c) Scientists who were sent abroad sensitized the other scientists by sharing their experiences. Students have benefited from the new skills acquired by the scientists sent abroad.

- Course curriculum revised and new courses in tune with current needs introduced.
- More emphasis on the teaching of practicals
- Greater emphasis on evaluation of teaching and teachers by students
- Realization for and introduction of interdisciplinary courses
- Number of faculty members providing lecture handouts increased
- Scientists are increasingly using internet for literature search. This is leading to providing latest developments in agricultural sciences. Students are also induced to use internet to search literature for planning of research projects
- Students performance evaluation system has improved by including class room discussions, case study etc.
- Increased number of laboratory manuals and lecture notes are being prepared

(d) Procedure/rules for selection of scientists for overseas visits are well defined. Final selection of the country and laboratory for visit is made with the help of FAO. The following procedure is followed in the selection of scientists:

- The priority areas, based on the country`s needs and gaps in competence were identified by the AHRD project overseas nomination screening committee, composition of which is shown in Annexure-A.
- Selection of the scientists at the Division/Department level by involving Board of Studies
- Recommendation of the nomination at the Institute level by Dean/Director

- Approval of the nomination by the AHRD project overseas nomination screening committee
- Processing of the nominations by the DARE for approval of the Union Agriculture Minister.

Annexure-A

MEMBERS OF THE SCREENING COMMITTEE FOR FINALIZING OVERSEAS NOMINATIONS UNDER AHRD PROJECT

- DDG (Edn.) Chairman
- Concerned DDG Member
- Secretary, ICAR Member
- FA, DARE Member
- US, DARE Member
- ADG (Edn.) Member Secretary